

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1, 8, 10, and 19 as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A network name resolving element for performing name resolving in a network system which includes a first network using a first network protocol and a second network using a second network protocol, the network element comprising:

a name resolving unit configured to perform name resolving;

a first connection unit configured to provide a direct connection to the first network;

a second connection unit configured to provide a direct connection to the second network, such that when the name resolving unit in the first network must forward a request to a server in the second network, the request is sent directly from the name resolving unit in the first network to the second network; and

an address translation unit configured to perform address translation between the first network and the second network;

wherein the name resolving unit and the address translation unit are configured to co-operate in order to translate addresses upon performing name resolving.

2. (Previously Presented) The network name resolving element according to claim 1, wherein the network element is a domain name service server.

3. (Previously Presented) The network name resolving element according to claim 1, wherein the address translation unit is configured to select a particular network address translating element to be used for a connection between a first host in the first network and a second host in the second network, and

wherein the address translation unit is configured to add network address translating element information to the resolved address.

4. (Previously Presented) The network name resolving element according to claim 3, wherein the network address translating element information is an address prefix.

5. (Previously Presented) The network name resolving element according to claim 3, wherein the address translation unit is configured to select a network address translating element based on information regarding the load on the network address translating element.

6. (Previously Presented) The network name resolving element according to claim 1, wherein the first protocol is Internet Protocol version 6 , and the second protocol is Internet Protocol version 4.

7. (Previously Presented) The network name resolving element according to claim 1, wherein the name resolving unit of the network element is configured to send a name resolve request to a name resolving element located in the second network.

8. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:
a network name resolving element ~~according to claim 5~~ and at least two network address translating elements,

the network name resolving element being for performing name resolving in a network system which includes a first network using a first network protocol and a second network using a second network protocol, the network element comprising a name resolving unit configured to perform name resolving,
a first connection unit configured to provide a direct connection to the first network,

a second connection unit configured to provide a direct connection to the second network, such that when the name resolving unit in the first network must forward a request to a server in the second network, the request is sent directly from the name resolving unit in the first network to the second network, and

an address translation unit configured to perform address translation between the first network and the second network,

wherein the name resolving unit and the address translation unit are configured to co-operate in order to translate addresses upon performing name resolving,

wherein the address translation unit is configured to select a particular network address translating element to be used for a connection between a first host in the first network and a second host in the second network,

wherein the address translation unit is configured to add network address translating element information to the resolved address, and

wherein the address translation unit is configured to select a network address translating element based on information regarding the load on the network address translating element,

wherein the network address translating elements are configured to send load information to the network element.

9. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 8, wherein the load information is sent using a Simple Network Management Protocol.

10. (Currently Amended) A method for resolving names in a network system which includes a first network using a first network protocol and a second network using a second network protocol, comprising

processing a name resolve request to obtain an address; and

performing address translation between the first and the second network,

wherein the name resolve request processing and the address translation are performed in a dedicated network name resolving element for performing name resolving

located in the first network and having direct connections to the first network and to the second network, such that when the name resolving unit in the first network must forward a request to a server in the second network, the request is sent directly from the name resolving unit in the first network to the second network.

11. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 10, wherein the network element is a domain name service server.

12. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 10, wherein the address_translation comprises

selecting a particular address network translating element to be used for a connection between a first host (A) in the first network and a second host in the second network; and

adding network address translating element information indicating the selected network translating element to the translated address.

13. (Original) The method according to claim 12, wherein the network address translating element information is an address prefix.

14. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 12, wherein in the selecting, different network address translating elements are selected based on information regarding the load on the network address translating elements.

15. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 10, wherein the first network protocol is Internet Protocol version 6, and the second network protocol is Internet Protocol version 4.

16. (Original) The method according to claim 14, further comprising the step of:

sending load information from at least two network address translating elements to the network element.

17. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 16, wherein the load information is sent using Simple Network Management Protocol.

18. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 10, wherein the name resolve request processing comprises

forwarding a name resolve request from the first network directly to a network name resolving element in the second network; and

receiving an address from the name resolving element in the second network.

19. (Currently Amended) A network name resolving element for performing name resolving in a network system which includes a first network using a first network protocol and a second network using a second network protocol, the network name resolving element comprising:

means for performing name resolving,

means for providing a direct connection to the first network;

means for providing a direct connection to the second network, such that when the

means for performing name resolving in the first network must forward a request to a

server in the second network, the request is sent directly from the means for performing

name resolving in the first network to the second network;; and

means for performing address translation between the first network and the second network;

wherein the means for performing name resolving and the means for performing address translation are configured to co-operate in order to translate addresses upon performing name resolving.